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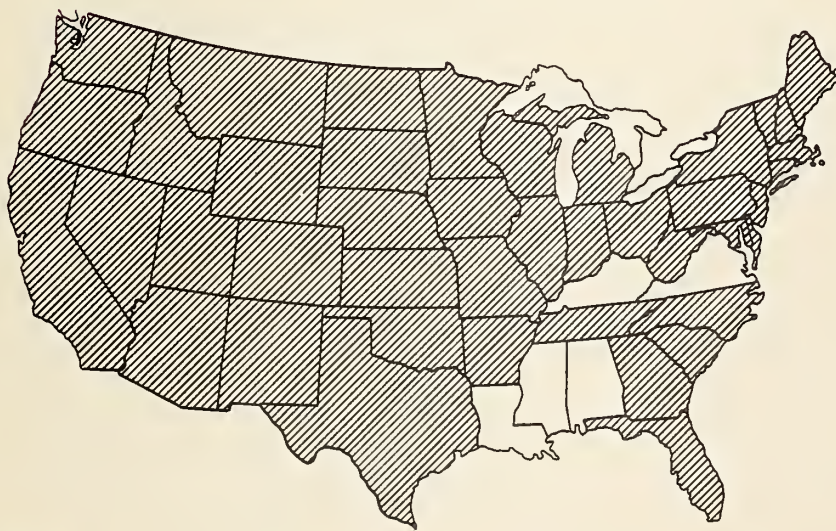
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



DIGEST OF OUTSTANDING FEDERAL AND STATE
LEGISLATION AFFECTING RURAL LAND USE

(SEMIMONTHLY-MARCH 1, 1941)



LEGISLATURES MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION IN 1941

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FOREWORD

Information appearing in Bulletins 58 and 59 under the title: "State Legislatures Meeting for Regular Sessions in 1941" changes so little from week to week that it is being omitted in this issue. Note may be taken, however, of the fact that the following Legislatures have recessed or adjourned:

- California - Recessed January 25 to March 3
- Georgia - Preliminary Session convened January 13
and adjourned January 22
- New Mexico - Recessed February 12 to March 15.
- Tennessee - Adjourned February 15
- Wyoming - Adjourned February 22

To inform the reader as to progress of bills, a bulletin is planned for April 15 which would summarize the action taken on bills digested. This bulletin will also constitute an index by State and subject matter for all bills included in previous issues. If the reader is unable to locate the digest of a particular bill in which he is interested, whether State or Federal, or if he desires a report before that time on the progress of particular bills, it may be possible to supply the information through correspondence or by telephone.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION - BILLS INTRODUCED

Credit and Insurance

Public Credit

Deficiency Judgments. Would prohibit the Farm Credit Administration and related agencies from taking deficiency judgments in connection with real estate foreclosures. (H. R. 2253, Mr. Curtis, January 16.)

Marketing

Agricultural Prices and Income

Cotton Certificate Allotments. Would amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 so as to establish annual cotton certificate allotments based on the yearly average of cotton domestically consumed during the ten years immediately preceding. Each person making the first sale of any article manufactured wholly or partly from cotton would be required to buy certificates in proportion to the amount of cotton used. Refunds would be granted in the case of articles eventually exported. Cotton growers would receive a direct payment from the Secretary of Agriculture equal to the value of the certificates allocated to their individual farms. The grower must furnish satisfactory evidence that the farm marketing allotment for the year has not been exceeded.

Foreign Trade

Agricultural Imports. During any period when the domestic producers' current average selling price of a comparable domestic commodity is less than the parity price, importations of that commodity would be forbidden. The bill applies to (1) agricultural products made dutiable under the Tariff Act of 1930, (2) sugar and molasses, (3) cotton, and (4) fish, animal or vegetable oils. (H. R. 3328, Mr. Woodruff, February 13.)

Planning and Evaluation of Programs

Land and Natural Resource Planning

Natural Resources Corporation. Would establish a corporation with a board of directors composed of five presidential appointees to act as trustees of the public interest and to manage the coal, oil, electrical energy and natural gas industries of the United States, "strictly as a business undertaking for the benefit of the

nation as a whole." A joint congressional standing committee would also be established whose function would be to meet and discuss with the board of directors, the affairs of the corporation at least once every three months. (H.R. 2246, Mr. Coffee, January 16.)

Services to Agriculture

Pest and Weed Control

Noxious Weed Control Act. Would provide the Secretary of Agriculture with power to (1) furnish financial or other aid to States for the control of noxious weeds (contribution not to exceed 40 percent of total costs of operations), (2) carry out control or eradication measures on public and private land subject to such conditions as he may deem necessary, and (3) conduct surveys, investigation and research relating to noxious weeds and measures needed for their control. As a condition for extending the benefits, the Secretary might require (1) the enactment and reasonable safeguards for the enforcement of State and local laws, (2) agreements as to the permanent use of land and (3) contributions in money, services or materials. An appropriation of \$5,000,000 would be authorized for the first year. (S. B. 827, Mr. Clark, February 10.)

Water Utilization

Flood Control

Dakota Valley Authority. Would establish an authority patterned after the TVA to develop the natural resources of the Missouri River and its tributaries in North and South Dakota. (S. B. 831, Mr. Bulow, January 10.)

Tidal Lands. Would Definitely establish the doctrine that the title to submerged and tide lands is and ought to be vested in the respective States within whose boundaries such lands are situated. (H. J. R. 5, Mr. Angell, January 3.)

STATE LEGISLATION - BILLS INTRODUCED^{1/}

Conservation

Minerals

North Dakota - Oil and Gas Conservation. Would extend the functions of the Industrial Commission to provide control over oil and gas drilling operations. The objectives are to prevent waste and to avoid pollution of water. (H. B. 210, Mr. Moreland, et al.)

South Dakota - Oil and Gas Conservation. Each of these bills has for its purpose the creation of an Oil and Gas Board, which, after appropriate notice and hearings, would have authority to regulate drilling operations in order to prevent waste and to avoid the pollution of water. House Bill 10 proposes a new State body consisting of the Governor, the Attorney General and the State Geologist; while House Bill 241 would give the same functions to the Public Utilities Commission. (H. B. 10, Mr. Hafner; H. B. 241.)

Soils

* Connecticut - Soil Conservation Districts. Would provide "for a state soil conservation committee, creation of soil conservation districts and supervisors who shall have authority to formulate ordinances governing the use of lands within the district and to enforce them and a board of adjustment to hear petitions of land occupiers." (S. B. 279, Mr. Coles; H. B. 1849.)

Idaho - Soil Conservation Districts. Would repeal the 1939 District Enabling Act ((Ch. 200, Laws of 1939) and substitute a new Act containing several changes of which the following are the most important: (1) The Dean of the College of Agriculture would serve ex officio as State Soil Conservation Director and have the same functions as the present State Soil Conservation Commission. (2) Districts would be authorized to adopt and enforce "conservation ordinances." (Follows the phraseology of the "Standard Act"). (3) Creation of Boards of Adjustment would be required in the event ordinances are adopted. (S. B. 79.)

Iowa - Strip Mining Regulations. Upon opening a new open-cut or strip mining operation, the operator or owner of the land would be required to deposit a one hundred dollar U. S. Government bond with the county treasurer for each acre involved. The interest from

^{1/} Starred items indicate that a copy of the bill was not available; the reference is to title only.

these bonds is to be retained in a permanent fund to be used for the payment of general taxes on the land. Within one year after the abandonment of the operation, the planting of fruit or forest trees would be required. If the assessed valuation is maintained for a period of ten years as a result of these improvements, the original bonds are to be returned to the depositor. (H. B. 231, Mr. Hoegh.)

* Pennsylvania - Soil Conservation District. Would amend the Soil Conservation District Law "providing changes in the membership of the State Soil Conservation Board; prescribing procedures for the allocation of funds among districts, requiring the filing of budget reports, changing the necessary favorable vote in referenda on the creation, addition of territory, and dissolution of districts; changing the requirement of a district for inclusion of additional territory; require district supervisors to be residents of such districts; and further defining the powers of districts." (H. B. 208, Mr. Moul.)

Utah - Consolidation of Districts. Would amend the present Enabling Act (Ch. 116, Laws of 1937) by providing the mechanism for consolidating two or more soil conservation districts. (S. B. 77.)

Cooperatives

Rural Electrification Cooperatives

* Georgia - Tax Exemption. Would propose an amendment to the Constitution which would exempt from all taxation non-profit or co-operative organizations engaged in rural electrification. (S. R. 19.)

Idaho - Taxation of Rural Electrical Cooperatives. Would exempt the property of non-profit rural electrical cooperatives, but would require the corporation to pay an annual fee of \$10 for each 100 members. (S. B. 70, Mr. Derr, et al.)

South Dakota - Electric Cooperatives. Would permit the organization of cooperatives for the purpose of supplying electric energy. (H. B. 306, Mr. Ulrikson.)

South Dakota - Taxation. Would impose upon the distributors of electric current in rural areas a tax of \$10 for each 100 customers served which would replace all personal property taxes upon that part of the distribution and transmission lines situated in rural areas. (H. B. 310, Mr. Dove.)

Vermont - Electric Cooperatives. Would permit the establishment and incorporation of electric cooperatives. (H. B. 112.)

Service and Retail Cooperatives

* Connecticut - Enabling Act. "An Act providing for the organization and regulation of cooperative associations." (S. B. 528, Mr. Bingham; H. B. 1978.)

Maine - Credit Unions. Would permit incorporation of credit unions upon petition of ten or more residents of the State. Capital of the corporation is to be unlimited, but par value of shares must be \$5. (H. B. 595, Mr. Payson.)

Washington - Consumers' Cooperatives. Would permit the establishment of consumers' cooperatives under stipulated regulations as to their organization and operation. (H. B. 346, Mr. Eaton.)

Credit and Insurance

Debt Adjustment and Relief

Massachusetts - Mortgage Foreclosures. Would prevent any bank coming under the control of the Commissioner of Banks from starting a foreclosure proceeding on mortgages of less than \$4000, when the interest and taxes are paid up to date, without first giving the mortgagor a public hearing before the Commissioner. (S. B. 331, Mr. Fitzgerald.)

Minnesota - Mortgage Moratorium. Would permit the postponement of foreclosure sales or the extension of the period for redeeming sales already consummated. Deficiency judgments would likewise be disallowed. Effectiveness of the act would be limited to March 1, 1943. (H. F. 631, Mr. MacKinnon.)

South Carolina - Limitation. Would terminate absolutely the life of all judgments ten years from the date of rendition. (S. B. 123, Mr. Mozingo.)

South Dakota - Mortgage Moratorium. Would have the effect of extending present mortgage moratorium relief to March 1, 1943. Mortgagors taking advantage of the law would be required to make reasonable payments toward taxes and interest as determined by the court. (S. B. 13, Mr. Weir.)

Private Credit

Colorado - Small Loans. Would provide for the licensing and regulation of all businesses making loans of \$500 or less, banks, building and loan associations, and credit unions being excepted. The State Bank Commission is to administer the Act. (S. B. 576, Mr. Hart, et al.)

Idaho - Small Loan Service. Would require the licensing and bonding of "small loan" companies engaged in making loans of \$300 or less. Maximum rates are provided for and assignments of salaries or wages are to be regulated. Administration of the Act rests with the Commissioner of Finance. (H. B. 63, Mr. Brunt, et al.)

Public Credit

South Dakota - School Funds. Would require the investment of educational funds in farm mortgages and bonds of school corporations as long as demand for money existed. Surplus monies may be used for refunding purposes. The amount invested in farm mortgages in any one year shall not exceed 35 percent of the fund. (S. B. 226.)

Forestry

Fire Control

Utah - Forestry and Fire Control Board. Would change the name of the State Board of Fire Control to State Board of Forestry and Fire Control and would add to its present membership one member from the Woolgrowers Association and one from the State Cattle and Horse Growers Association. The Dean of Forestry of the State Agricultural College would serve ex officio as Chief Forester-Fire Warden and would be responsible for the administration of all State fire control and forestry laws. The bill permits cooperation of the Board and the Chief Forester-Fire Warden with Federal agencies and county organizations. (S. B. 62.)

Washington - Fire Equipment. Would provide for additional fire-fighting equipment for locomotives traveling through forest areas or any other type of engine operated within the forest zone. (H. B. 399.)

Forest Management

Arkansas - Timber Rights. In case tax forfeited land is disposed of by the State, this bill would reserve the timber rights to the State for a period of five years. (H. B. 184, Mr. Sullivan.)

* Connecticut - Forest Bonds. Would authorize the issuance of Connecticut State park and forest bonds by the State Park and Forest Commission, the funds of which are to be used for forest and wildlife protection. (S. B. 160.)

Maine - Cutting Regulations. Would require the owner of any pine woodland to leave standing one pine tree ten inches or more in diameter on each acre of mature pine woodland. These seed trees would remain the property of the landowner, but he could not cut

them until 15 years after the lumbering operation on that land had ceased. (L. D. 746, Mr. Starrett.)

North Dakota - Tree Bounties. Would repeal the law permitting a representative to negotiate cooperative agreements with the United States and with political subdivisions of the State relating to the development of nurseries and the production of tree seeds and plants. (A. B. 74, Mr. Brooks.)

New Hampshire - Forest Advisory Boards. The State Forester would be required to designate forest districts within the State for the purpose of administering forest laws. The Forestry and Recreation Commission would be required to appoint a Forest Advisory Board, of not less than three members, in each district to study forest conditions in its district and make proposals for legislative action. (H. B. 277, Mr. Adams, et al.)

Oregon - United States Forest Program. Memorializes Congress to enact the Pierce Bill (H. R. 615--see Bulletin 58, p. 2) which provides for the coordinated management of public and private forests in Oregon and Washington. (H. J. M. 3, Mr. Nueberger, et al.)

South Dakota - Tree Bounties. Would disqualify any person from receiving the county bounty of \$5 per acre of cultivated forest or fruit trees who applies for or receives payment from any Federal agency for planting or cultivating trees or for permitting land to remain out of cultivation. (S. B. 20, Mr. Nash.)

Washington - United States Forest Program. A memorial referring to the Pierce Bill--see Oregon, above. (S. J. R. 8, Mr. Malstrom, et al.)

Public Acquisition

* Connecticut - Appropriations. Would make an appropriation of \$100,000 annually for two years for the purpose of State acquisition of forest land. (S. B. 1445, H. B. 544.)

Idaho - Cooperation. Would authorize the State Board of Land Commissioners to cooperate with the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the U. S. Forest Service in the exchange of State-owned lands for Federal-owned lands. (S. B. 124.)

Oregon - County Forests, Parks and Recreational Areas. Would permit the county court of any county to designate as county forests, public parks, or recreational areas any land acquired by the county for delinquent taxes or otherwise. (S. B. 97, Mr. Francisco-vich, et al.)

Washington - Forest Lands. Would provide that lands acquired by the county through tax foreclosure and contracted for sale may be sold even though the State Forest Board has designated the lands as forest lands. Delinquent taxes must, however, be paid and conveyance must be made in one year. (S. B. 120, Mr. Edwards.)

Reforestation

Idaho - Burned-Over Areas. Declaring that the rehabilitation of burned-over areas is a matter of public concern, this bill would require that any State department controlling burned-over lands should request an appropriation from the Legislature for reseeding. The work is to be done in cooperation with the Federal Government and counties concerned, and the State treasurer is empowered to accept any Federal aid for this purpose.

Counties would be authorized after public hearing to create "Burn Seeding Areas." To supervise reseeding, the position of County Burn Seeding Supervisor is created, who is to cooperate with public officials and private owners in area rehabilitation. The costs would be prorated against the land seeded, a Burn Seed Fund created and a tax levy of not to exceed ten cents on each \$100 of assessed valuation. With the assistance of the State, the counties may pay the entire cost of seeding on county owned land, and up to 50 percent of the costs on private land. (H. B. 219.)

Governmental Cooperation

Federal-State

Maine - Stamp Plan Cooperation. Would authorize the Department of Health and Welfare to cooperate in the administration of programs of the U. S. Department of Agriculture or any of its agencies. Particular reference is made to the food stamp plan. (S. B. 304, Mr. Fellows.)

Interstate

Michigan - State Commission. Would establish House and Senate standing committees on interstate cooperation, as well as a five-member Governor's committee and a fifteen-member State commission on the same subject. Carrying forward participation in the Council of State Governments and the general improvement of interstate relations, are named among the objectives. (S. B. 100, Mr. Baldwin, et al.)

Nebraska - Republican River. Would ratify the compact between Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska respecting the future use, control and distribution of the waters of the Republican River. (L. B. 429, Mr. Neubauer, et al.)

* New Jersey - Sale of Nursery Stock. Would authorize the Department of Agriculture to make reciprocal agreements with other States regarding sale and delivery of nursery stock. (A. B. 96.)

Texas - Oil and Gas Compact. Would extend the Interstate Compact to conserve oil and gas for a period of two years from its expiration date (September 1, 1941). (H.B. 208, Mr. Daniel, et al.)

Wyoming - Interstate Streams Commission. Proposes to create a four-man commission, with gubernatorial appointees from each of the four water divisions, to negotiate compacts and otherwise represent the State in all matters affecting the distribution of water in interstate streams. (H. B. 129.)

Governmental Structure and Administration

State Government

Arizona - Department of Agriculture. Would create a Department of Agriculture under the control of a Board of Agriculture composed of the Governor and seven members appointed by the Governor, each member representing a different agricultural interest. The Board would appoint a secretary who would act as executive director of the department. It would abolish the Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture, the State Veterinary Surgeon, the State Dairy Commission, the Sheep Sanitary, the Agricultural Prorate Commissioner, the Supervisor of Inspection and State Supervisor of Weights and Measures and transfer their functions to the Department of Agriculture. (S. B. 93, Mr. Blake, et al.)

* Connecticut - Department of Agriculture. These bills would provide for the establishment of a department of agriculture charged with administering all laws related to agriculture. (S. B. 1232, H. B. 2600; Mr. Coles.)

* Connecticut - Conservation Authority. These bills would establish a State conservation authority. (S. B. 1237, H. B. 2605; Mr. Riernan.)

Idaho - Legislative Council. Would create a legislative council to consist of six senators and eight representatives in addition to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house who would serve ex officio as chairman and vice-chairman of the council. The council's duties would consist of studying State problems and recommending remedial legislation. The bill would also set up, in cooperation with the State University, a Division of Legislative Research and Drafting and empower the council to employ a Director for the Division. (H. B. 189, State Affairs Committee.)

Purdue Experiment Station. (S. B. 243.)

* Indiana - Conservation. Would amend conservation act to provide for a board of four members to be appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and State Treasurer. Terminates term of present officials and employees of department. (H. B. 332.)

* Maine - Commissioner of Agriculture. Would have the Commissioner of Agriculture appointed by the Governor with the consent of council, rather than elected by popular vote. (S.P. 326, Mr. Farris.)

* Minnesota - State Department of Education. Would create a State Department of Education. A State Board of Education of five members would be appointed by the Governor. The Board would also choose a Commissioner of Education to administrate the Department. (H. B. 538, Mr. Hart.)

* Montana - Advisory Committee on Administration. Would permit the Governor to appoint an Advisory Committee composed of seven members (two from the Senate, two from the House, and three private citizens) to study the entire organization structure of the State Government and report its findings. (S. B. 59, Mr. Burke, et al.)

* New Jersey - Districting. Would reorganize State governmental subdivisions into 15 districts, each headed by a single Commissioner. (A. B. 119.)

* North Carolina - State Board of Education. These bills would amend the Constitution to create a State Board of Education of seven members with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction as chief executive officer. Beside the usual powers, the Board would be authorized to divide the State into convenient school districts, fix qualifications for teachers, and apportion and equalize school funds. Board members would be appointed by the Governor with confirmation by the Legislature. (S. B. 107, Mr. Stacy; H. B. 253, Mr. Brooks.)

* South Dakota - Department of Agriculture. Would abolish the State Livestock Sanitary Board and transfer its functions to the Department of Agriculture. (S. B. 152, Mr. Graves.)

* South Dakota - Secretary of Agriculture. Would change the office of Secretary of Agriculture from an appointive to an elective status. (H. B. 282, Mr. Glover.)

South Dakota - Legislative Research and Defense Council. Would create a Legislative Research and Defense Council composed of 15 members: five appointed by the Governor, five from the Senate, and five from the House, to investigate and report upon the natural and human resources of the State, and to make recommendations for changes in the tax system and State and local Government structure. (S. B. 242, Mr. Stavig.)

Tennessee - State Board of Agriculture. Would create a State Board of Agriculture composed of nine farmer members plus the Governor and the Commissioner of Agriculture. The Board's chief function would be that of determining policies pertaining to the operation of the State Department of Agriculture. (H. B. 808, Mr. Ragon, et al; S. B. 572.)

Utah - Administrative Reorganization. Proposes to place all State administrative functions within 14 departments. The Department of Finance would be directed by a three member Commission (two members appointed by the Governor and the State Treasurer to serve as the third member). Likewise, the Department of Agriculture would be directed by three full-time Commissioners, one of whom would be experienced in agricultural production, one experienced in cooperative marketing, and the third member experienced in the raising and handling of livestock. (H. B. 82.)

Local Government

* Connecticut - Officials. These bills would provide for the appointment of tax collectors for a period of six years and the election of town clerks for two years. (H. B. 658, S. B. 1559.)

* Connecticut - Government Commission. These bills would create a commission of five members to study the forms and methods of county Government. (S. B. 1234, Mr. Barrett; H. B. 2602.)

* Indiana - Consolidation. Would establish procedure by which fragments of townships left remaining in areas taken over by defense industries may be consolidated with other townships. (H. B. 377.)

* Indiana - Township Consolidation. Would provide a new classification of townships and require those of \$500,000 or less valuation to consolidate as of July 1, 1943. As of the present valuation, the law would affect 119 townships in 36 counties. (H. B. 504.)

Iowa - Conservation Commissioner. Would replace the Conservation Commission by a Conservation Commissioner who would serve as Director of the State Department of Conservation. (H. B. 10, Mr. Yager.)

Iowa - County Civil Service. Would set up a civil service system for appointive county employees. The county Board of Supervisors would appoint a Civil Service Commission composed of three members to administer the program. (H. B. 219, Mr. Judd, et al.)

Iowa - School District Consolidation. Would permit the county Board of Education of a county in which the national defense program has consumed a portion of a school district to consolidate the remainder of the school district to an adjoining one. (S. B. 223, Mr. Cromwell, et al; H. B. 214.)

Minnesota - County Civil Service. Would permit any county to adopt by vote of its electors, a civil service system for county employees to be administered by a Civil Service Director appointed by the county Civil Service Commission. (H. B. 172, Mr. Antila, et al.)

* New Jersey - Legislative Survey. Would direct Local Government Commission to inquire into mandatory legislation binding on counties, municipalities and school districts and to submit a report to the Legislature in 1942. (S. C. R. 5.)

North Dakota - County Offices. Would amend the Constitution by requiring that county officers be elected for four year terms and would further change population requirements of county offices. In counties of 8000 or less, the offices of judge, clerk of district court and registrar of deeds would be combined. (H. C. R. 320, Mr. Hofstrand, et al.)

North Dakota - Optional Forms. House Bill 218 and House Bill 270 would permit any county to adopt by referendum a county manager form of Government. House Bill 218 would set up administrative departments under the direction of the manager. House Bill 270 would make the manager responsible for county administration, but would not require the establishment of separate departments under his supervision. Senate Bill 206 would permit any county to make certain consolidations of county offices. (H. B. 218, 270, S.B. 206.)

Oregon - County Manager. Would amend the State Constitution so as to permit the voters of any county to adopt, by a majority vote, a county manager form of Government. Should that form be selected, both constitutional and statutory county offices could be abolished and their functions transferred to an elective commission and a manager elected or appointed as provided by law. (H. J. R. 5, Mr. French, et al.)

* Pennsylvania - Controllers. Would abolish the office of auditor and establish the office of controller in all but first-class counties. (S. B. 220, Mr. Tallman.)

* Pennsylvania - County Consolidation. "Would enable counties that are contiguous "which together form a compact territory" to be

united into one consolidated county. Elections are provided for and certain duties are imposed on State officers in the consolidation process. (H. B. 410, Mr. Voorhees.)

South Dakota - County Civil Service. Would permit any county in the State to establish, by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, a civil service system for its employees. (S. B. 166, Mr. Dahme.)

South Dakota - School District Dissolution. Would require the county commissioners of any county to assume the management of affairs of any common school district which no longer has a sufficient number of inhabitants to constitute a school district. The district would then revert to unorganized territory. (H. B. 337.)

Washington - Township Consolidation. Would (1) increase the powers of townships, and (2) permit the consolidation of townships upon a favorable vote of the majority of the electors in the townships involved. (H. B. 211, Mr. Needham, et al.)

Washington - Dissolution of Districts. Would permit the dissolution of local improvement, port, school, independent, highway, water, fire protection and other districts of similar organization. The superior court would be empowered to allow or disallow dissolution after a petition for dissolution has been presented it by the Board of Commissioners and after a hearing has been held. (H. B. 238, Mr. Turner.)

Washington - School District Reorganization. Would set up a State committee and a county committee in each county to formulate plans for the reorganization of school districts. Reorganization may include among other things consolidation of two or more districts or the creation of new districts. (H. B. 367, Mr. Devenish.)

Wisconsin - Number of Counties. Proposes to create an interim legislative committee to investigate the feasibility of reducing the number of counties and thereby reducing the cost of local Government. (A. J. R. 31, Mr. Westfahl.)

Grazing

District and Associations

North Dakota - Grazing Associations. Would redefine an "animal unit" as: "a cow, a bull, or a steer, or five sheep over six months of age..... Two horses shall be equivalent to three animal units." This is an amendment to Ch. 106, Laws of 1935. (H. B. 190, Mr. Dröval, et al.)

Range Practices

New Mexico - Grazing Rentals. Would prescribe a minimum rental of five cents per acre on grazing leases for the lowest grade of State owned lands--rental rates for higher grades to be fixed by the State Land Commissioner. (H. B. 80, Mr. Padilla, et al.)

Land Development

Drainage and Irrigation Projects

Arizona - Water and Power Authority. These bills would create a new "TVA" authority embracing the Colorado River and tributaries. Not only would the authority promote wise utilization of water resources and the development of hydro-electric power; but metropolitan conservation districts including one or more counties with taxing power would be formed within the area. These districts would be given power to take any steps within the framework of the general plan of the authority. (H. B. 72, S. B. 74.)

Arkansas - Dissolution of Drainage Districts. Would permit the dissolution of any drainage district upon petition of the owners of 51 percent of the real property within the district, if it has paid all of its bonded indebtedness and if it has on hand money or lands sufficient to meet all of its outstanding debts. (S. B. 88.)

Colorado - Dissolution of Irrigation Districts. Would permit the dissolution of any irrigation district by a majority vote of the electors of the district. However, dissolution would not be permitted until the district had made satisfactory arrangements for payment of its indebtedness. (H. B. 372, Mr. Smith, et al.)

Iowa - Drainage Districts. Would require the board in charge of a main ditch, drain, or natural watercourse, before making any improvement on the main ditch which would necessitate a special assessment, to notify the boards in charge of the drainage districts outletting into the main ditch and provide them an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed improvement and consequent assessment. (H. B. 111, Mr. Allen.)

* Indiana - County Drainage Boards. Would give county commissioners power to create county drainage boards consisting of commissioners, auditor, and drainage supervisor, the latter being the county surveyor. (H. B. 424.)

* Maryland - Drainage Associations. Would authorize the County Commissioners of the several counties to provide for drainage of swamps and lowlands by establishing public drainage associations, and prescribing their duties and functions. (S. B. 292, Mr. Roe.)

Montana - Water Commissioner. Would authorize the courts to appoint a Water Commissioner to arbitrate the individual water rights of co-owners of irrigation ditches. The court would appoint a Water Commissioner only upon the petition of the co-owners. (S. B. 75, Mr. Simmons.)

Nebraska - Control of Property. Would empower irrigation districts through their boards of directors to purchase and control any real and personal property of the district through contract in the exercise of its corporate powers. Where the real estate transaction is over \$3000, the transaction must be approved by the voters of the district. (L. B. 205, Mr. Gantz.)

Nebraska - Conservation of Ground Water. Would make the Department of Roads and Irrigation responsible for the administration of a program to conserve subterranean water and to better utilize ground water for irrigation purposes. (L. B. 460, Mr. Gantz, et al.)

North Dakota - Dissolution of Districts. Would establish a procedure dissolving irrigation districts and for liquidating their assets. Dissolution would not release unpaid liens for assessments nor would it affect existing riparian rights. The district could not be discontinued until sufficient assessments had been made and collected to clear up all outstanding indebtedness. Any remaining surplus after settlement would be returned to the landowners in proportion to the size of the last assessment made against their lands. (S. B. 174, Mr. Gronvold.)

North Dakota - Irrigation Districts. Proposes amendments to the present Act which would, among other things, (1) increase the required minimum number of electors within a proposed district from five to seven, and (2) permit authorized representatives of corporations, estates and public bodies to participate in elections where they own lands in the districts. (H. B. 166.)

Washington - Water Exchange. Would provide that Sec. 6, Ch. 122, Laws of 1929 is not to be construed so as to prevent owners of water rights from exchanging water for a limited time. Exchange may be by loan or lease, but must not be detrimental to existing rights, and must have the permission of the water master of the district or the State supervisor of hydraulics. (H. B. 242.)

Washington - Organization of Drainage Districts. Would amend the procedure in the organization of water districts. County commissioners are authorized to hold elections in petitioned areas and are to be the drainage commissioners for the district until the election of official officers at the following election. (H. B. 276, Mr. Wenberg.)

Washington - Tax Delinquency. Would provide that deeds to any

tract of land in an irrigation district of 200,000 or more acres which is sold for delinquent taxes but for which irrigation water was not available at time of sale, would not issue until the expiration of two years from date of sale. Within that time, the original owner would have right of redemption. (H. B. 425.)

Washington - Assessments. Would allow ten percent discount where irrigation assessments are paid in full or in part in the year during which they are levied. Assessments must be made, however, prior to December 10. This bill in no way affects other delinquency provisions. (H. B. 426.)

Land Classification

South Dakota - Land Classification. Proposes a land classification and evaluation program to be administered by the Director of Taxation with the assistance of a State Advisory Committee composed of the Commissioner of School and Public Lands, Rural Credit Director, Secretary of Agriculture, President of the County Commissioners Association, Director of the Experiment Station and Director of the Extension Service. The agricultural land of any county would be classified upon petition to the Board of County Commissioners by 20 percent of the landowners in the county. (H. B. 247, Mr. Williams.)

Land Settlement

Washington - Cooperative Agreements. Would authorize the Director of the Department of Conservation and Development to exercise the right of eminent domain in carrying out cooperative agreements with the United States for the reclamation and settlement of arid, swamp, overflow, or logged-off lands. (H. B. 428, Mr. Phillips.)

Land Tenure

Corporate Ownership of Land

Iowa - Land Disposal. Would provide that any corporation or trust holding more than 640 acres of land must dispose of the property within two years of the date of acquisition thereof, or within 90 days if the real estate has already been held two years. Land within a municipality or necessary for the transaction of the corporation's business need not be disposed of. An Iowa Farm Land Appraisal Board composed of three members is created to appraise all lands that must be disposed of under the provisions of this bill. Property may be sold only to citizens who have resided three years (prior to application) in Iowa. The Board is given power to define terms of sale. (S. F. 71, Mr. Augustine.)

Homestead Exemption and Graduated Land Tax

* Connecticut - Homestead Exemptions. Would give tax exemptions on homesteads. (S. B. 984, Mr. Bingham; H. B. 2352.)

* Georgia - Homestead Exemption. Would exempt homesteads from certain taxation. (S. B. 145.)

* Georgia - Ad Valorem Taxation. Would amend the Constitution to authorize counties to subject homesteads to ad valorem taxation for county and school purposes. (H. R. 79, 466A.)

Iowa - Graduated Land Tax. Would impose a graduated land tax on all land owned in the State by any one person, firm, corporation or association in excess of 640 acres. (H. B. 62, Mr. Alesch, et al.)

Iowa - Graduated Land Tax. Under this bill, ten crop acres would constitute a unit and the farm operator would be taxed progressively upon the number of units operated by him. The rates would be as follows: (1) Less than ten acres, no tax, (2) ten to 100 acres, ten cents per unit, (3) on the second 100 acres, \$2 per unit, (4) on the third 100 acres, \$5 per unit, (5) on the fourth 100 acres, \$5 per unit, (6) on the fifth 100 acres \$7.50, and (7) on the sixth 100 acres and on all crop acres in excess of 600 acres, \$10 per unit. (H. B. 240, Mr. Yager, et al.)

North Dakota - Graduated Land Tax. Would amend the Constitution to permit a graduated tax on farm and ranch lands above the value of \$20,000 when under one ownership. (H. C. R. 214, Mr. Myers, et al.)

Oklahoma - Graduated Land Tax. Would impose a graduated tax on any person or corporation holding land in excess of 640 acres and which is not devoted to forestation, reclamation or for irrigation purposes. Land acreage would be divided into three classes and progressive rates established each year until the maximum of 40, 45 and 50 mills had been established for the respective classes. Reservations to the bill are: (1) "that land of an assessed value of \$12,000 may, at option, be exempt to any owner in lieu of only the first 640 acres, and (2) "that where land now owned is sold for a home within five years, . . . 98 percent of all tax theretofore levied" shall be refunded to the owner. (S. J. R. 1, Mr. Bowman.)

Oklahoma - Homestead Purchase. Would amend the constitutional provision limiting State indebtedness without a vote of the people, to permit the Commissioners of the Land Office to borrow \$77,000,000 from a Federal agency to lend for purchase of land for permanent homesteads. Interest rate is not to be more than three percent, no loan is to be larger than \$10,000, and no county is to receive more than 100 such loans. (H. J. R. 13.)

South Dakota - Graduated Land Tax. Proposes an amendment to the Constitution to permit a graduated tax on all lands under one ownership having an equalized assessed valuation exceeding \$75,000. (S. J. R. 5.)

South Dakota - Homestead Exemption. These bills would exempt homesteads from general taxation to the amount of \$1000 assessed valuation. Owners must be occupants. The exemption may be deducted only from the homestead property and not from the total assessed valuation of property which has its situs in other taxing districts. (H. B. 7, S. B. 4.)

North Dakota - Graduated Land Tax. Would amend the Constitution to permit a graduated tax on farm and ranch lands above the value of \$20,000 when under one ownership. (H. C. R. 214, Mr. Myers, et al.)

Landlord-Tenant Relationships

* Connecticut - Removal Notice. Provides for a three months' notice to quit possession, and that no tenant can be evicted from premises he rents more than twice during a calendar year. Also provides against increasing the rental of any tenement except under certain conditions. (S. B. 27, Mr. Bourke; H. B. 290.)

* Indiana - Crop Liens. Would grant dealers in commercial fertilizers, feed, and seed a lien upon the grain, crops, or livestock for which the materials are used. (H. B. 521.)

Iowa - Custom Work. Would amend the present lien laws by allowing balers of hay and straw to file liens for doing custom work. (H. F. 83, Mr. Johannes, et al.)

New York - Crop Liens. Would permit the filing of chattel mortgages on crops and poultry to secure the purchase price of seeds, fertilizers, feeds and other materials. Also establishes the means by which the mortgagors may sell the mortgaged property for cultivation, harvesting or processing expenses. (A. B. 359, Mr. Lupton.)

Succession and Transfer of Real Property

* Connecticut - Mortgages. Would provide that any bank, trust company or other financial institution holding mortgages may dispose of property within three years after acquiring title, but not until the last title holder has had opportunity to reacquire property at a price not exceeding actual cost. (S. B. 46, Mr. Blansfield; H. B. 304.)

* Indiana - Validity of Title. Would make undisputed possession of real estate for 25 years by warranty deed equivalent of fee simple title. An abstract showing such facts becomes a merchantable title. (H. B. 323.)

* Pennsylvania - Validation of Title. Would authorize county treasurers to execute deeds for unseated and seated lands sold by their predecessor in office and validating deeds previously executed. (S. B. 151, Mr. Cavalcante.)

Marketing

Agricultural Prices and Income

Wisconsin - Butter and Cheese Loans. A memorial to Congress urging enactment of legislation "to the end that the dairy farmer and manufacturer of natural cheese and butter be granted the right to receive loans from the Federal Government on as liberal terms as are now being given to the wheat farmer." (A. J. R. 29, Mr. Sweeney.)

Fair Trade Practices

Texas - Competition for Cooperatives. Would prohibit the practice of offering to purchase agricultural products at an unspecified price on the assumption or promise that the ultimate price will be as great as that paid by some non-profit cooperative marketing association--thereby attempting to destroy the cooperative. (H. B. 15, Mr. Chambers.)

Foreign Trade

Illinois - Meat Importations. A memorial to the President and Congress asking that no attempt be made to repeal or circumvent the 1927 Embargo Act relating to the importation of dressed meats or other meat products from foreign countries in which the "hoof and mouth disease" is prevalent. (S. J. R. 6.)

Wisconsin - Tariff on Dairy Products. A memorial to Congress protesting the lowering of tariff on dairy products so as to permit imports of dairy products from South American nations. (A. J. R. 41.)

Inspection, Standardization, and Grading of Farm Products

Idaho - Brand Inspection. Would create the office of State Brand Inspector, centralizing in it the functions now carried out by the county brand inspectors. Brand recording, at present handled by the State Department of Agriculture, would also be transferred to

the new office. A general tightening up of provisions relating to investigations, searches, seizures and arrests for violation of brand and livestock theft laws is contemplated. (H. B. 115.)

Idaho - Promulgation of Standards. Would change the standards for open and closed receptacles and standards of grade or classification for farm products would—according to this bill—require a public hearing held on the petition of at least 25 active growers of the particular product affected. (H. B. 210.)

Idaho - State Director for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Industry. Proposes the establishment of a new office through which shippers of fresh fruits and vegetables could be represented in matters of rates, communications, and regulation of traffic. Collection of a tax through the sale of "Idaho Shippers Stamps" would be provided for as a means of meeting the cost of services to the industry. (H. B. 183.)

* Indiana - Fruits. Would fix standards for grading, classifying, and marking of peaches, apples, and strawberries sold in the State. (S. B. 217.)

* Pennsylvania - Farm Products. Would amend the "Farm Products Standards Law," by including certificates of the U. S. Department of Agriculture as evidence of grade and classification. (H. B. 379, Mr. Cohen.)

Licensing and Regulation of Handlers

Arkansas - Milk and Cream. Proposes to regulate and license creameries, cheese factories, butter factories, ice cream factories, condenseries and wholesale milk dealers in order to prohibit the purchase of cream and milk unfit for use in the manufacture of dairy products. (S. B. 47, Mr. Cummings.)

* Connecticut - Milk Control. Would provide for a State milk enforcement committee to regulate prices, regulate dealers, and supervise the milk marketing problem. (S. B. 533, H. B. 189.)

* Indiana - Dairy Substitutes. Would impose an excise tax on the sale of butter substitutes. The Department of Commerce and Industries would be charged with administration of the Act. (H. B. 490.)

* Indiana - Milk. Would re-enact for two years the Indiana milk control law. (H. B. 391.)

Massachusetts - Slaughterhouse Records. In order to prevent cattle stealing and the spread of livestock diseases, this bill

would require slaughterhouses to make periodic reports of the number of animals killed and of their identifying physical markings and ear tags. (H. B. 957, Mr. Shepard.)

Michigan - Milk Marketing Law. The objectives of this bill include, inter alia, (1) The fixing of a minimum price to milk producers based on cost of production, (2) equalization of prices as between producers and marketing associations, (3) guaranteeing of adequate supplies of milk to consumers, and (4) the elimination of unfair methods of competition and unfair trade practices. A Milk Marketing Board would be created to administer the Act and assessments on milk producers and milk dealers would be made to defray expenses. (H. B. 164, Mr. Acker.)

* New Jersey - Milk Commissioner. Would provide for the appointment of a State Milk Commissioner to regulate and control the entire milk industry of the State. (S. B. 101.)

* North Carolina - State Marketing Authority. Would establish a State Marketing Authority to promote the marketing of farm products and set up local marketing units in cooperation with counties, cities, and towns. Members of this non-profit agency would be the members of the State Board of Agriculture. The Authority would have power to make contracts, lease warehouses, and employ personnel for the administration of the Act. It would be given power to supervise market areas and to regulate prices. All property of the Marketing Authority would be tax exempt. (S. B. 80, Mr. Ballentine, et al; H. B. 144.)

Oklahoma - Livestock Sales. Proposes the licensing and regulation of community livestock sales and the inspection of stock sold or exchanged at these sales. (H. R. 12, Mr. Draper, et al.)

Tennessee - Milk Marketing Law. Would create a State Milk Board whose function it would be to supervise and regulate the milk industry of the State so as to insure fair prices to producers and adequate supplies to consumers. Licenses would be required for distributors and handlers. (H. B. 740, Mr. Ragon, et al.)

Utah - Milk Marketing Law. Would expand the powers of the Commissioner of Agriculture by authorizing him to supervise the establishment of milk marketing areas, the preparation of marketing plans, the creation of local control boards of producers and distributors, the fixing of minimum prices, the collection of fees from producers and distributors and the licensing of handlers. (S. B. 63.)

Surplus Marketing

Idaho - Food Stamp Revolving Fund. Proposes to create a

\$100,000 revolving fund to be used by the Division of Public Assistance for cooperation with the Surplus Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. (H. B. 174.)

Taxes on Foods

Washington - Butter Substitutes. Would require the annual licensing of users of butter substitutes who do not purchase their supply from retail dealers. Licensees would then be required to pay a tax of six cents per pound of substitutes used. (H. B. 215, Mr. Needham.)

Warehousing

New Mexico - Public Warehouses. Would authorize the licensing and bonding of public warehouses by the State Bank Examiner. Adequate fire insurance and other protection from weather and depreciation would be required. (S. B. 80, Mr. Krannawitter, et al.)

Seeds, Feeds, and Fertilizers

Iowa - Seed Certification. Proposes the creation of a State Seed Certification Board consisting of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Dean of Agriculture at Iowa State College, the head of the Crops Department of the College, the President of the State Experiment Station, and the President of the Iowa Corn and Small Grain Growers Association. The function of the Board would be to furnish field inspectors and to otherwise supervise the "certification" of farm seeds--particularly hybrid corn. (H. F. 186, Mr. Cooper, et al.)

Washington - Fertilizer Sales. Under the supervision of the Director of Agriculture, this bill would regulate the sale of commercial fertilizers, requiring that brands be registered and that labeling and advertising be accurate. A State chemist is designated to make appropriate tests of samples. (S. B. 188, Mr. McQuesten.)

Planning and Evaluation of Programs

Social and Economic Planning

* Connecticut - Development Area. Would authorize the Connecticut Development Commission to prepare, in cooperation with State and other governmental departments "a plan for development of an area two miles wide and extending west to east of the state." (H. B. 651, S. B. 1552.)

Land and Natural Resource Planning

* Georgia - Department of Natural Resources. These bills

would amend the law creating the Department of Natural Resources. (H. B. 462, S. B. 31.)

* Maryland - Natural Resources Board. Would create a Department of Natural Resources and describes powers and duties. Repeals Secs. 143 to 147 of Art. 41 of the Annotated Code. (H. B. 418, Mr. Gately, et al.)

* North Carolina - Board of Conservation. Would amend the law relating to the Board of Conservation and Development. The Governor is authorized to appoint a 15 member Board which would succeed to powers and duties of the present Board and serve four year terms. (S. B. 120, Mr. Rogers, et al; H. B. 272.)

New Mexico - State Planning Board. Would repeal the 1939 law to spend \$25,000 during the next biennium in the collection and dissemination of information concerning the development of the Missouri River as an important State resource. The work would be done by existing agencies on assignment from the Governor. (H. B. 176.)

Public Finance

Borrowing, Bankruptcy and Debt Adjustment

Arkansas - Bond Issues. Would permit any school district to fund its outstanding non-bonded indebtedness by issuing negotiable coupon bonds subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education. No district with an assessed valuation of less than \$1,000,000 would be permitted to have a bonded indebtedness of more than seven percent of its assessed value. Bonded indebtedness of districts having an assessed value of over \$1,000,000 would be limited to eight percent of the districts assessed value. (S. B. 108, Mr. Ward.)

Colorado, - Refunding Obligations. Would allow any political subdivision having outstanding pledge warrants, revenue bonds or other revenue obligations to refund these obligations by the issue and sale of other pledge warrants or revenue bonds, provided, among other things, that the warrant or bond shall bear an interest rate not to exceed 6 percent per annum. (S. B. 365, Mr. Bosworth.)

Iowa - Maximum Levy. Would permit comptroller to allow increases in maximum statutory millage levies up to 25 percent in counties, school districts, cities, and towns where present statutory rate will not produce sufficient revenue to meet budget requirements. (H. B. 72.)

Montana - Tax Levy, Indebtedness. Upon the submission to the electors of any question concerning the creation of a State tax levy

or the creation of a State debt all qualified electors whose names appear upon the assessment roll of any county would be entitled to vote. (S. B. 39.)

* New Jersey - Tax Limitation. Would permit municipalities under the jurisdiction of the local Government Board to exceed the five percent limit on tax increases where gross receipts and franchise taxes on utilities are not received. (S. B. 103.)

North Dakota - Refunding Bonds. Would permit the refunding of the Real Estate Series of North Dakota Bonds. The Industrial Commission would direct the issuance of refunding bonds and would prescribe an interest rate not to exceed six percent per annum. (S. B. 198.)

Texas - Tax Levy Limitation. Would amend the Constitution so as to limit the annual county tax levy and assessment to 80 cents on \$100 of assessed valuation. This limitation would not be applicable to payment of county debts incurred prior to January 1, 1941. (H. J. R. 2, Mr. Crowthait, et al.)

Wyoming - Debt Refunding. Would allow any political subdivision to issue refunding bonds, if by so doing a savings of interest cost could be effected. (H. B. 153, Mr. Ross.)

Financial Administration

Arkansas - State Taxes. Would amend the Constitution to provide that no Act increasing the rate of any State property, excise, privilege or personal tax, or levying a State tax of any kind shall take effect unless and until approved by a majority of the electors voting on the question. (S. J. R. 4, Mr. Bratten.)

* Connecticut - Investigatory Commission. Would create a temporary commission to study the tax laws of the State. (S. B. 843, Mr. Coles; H. B. 2211.)

Michigan - Revenue Department. Would establish a Department of Revenue appointed by the Civil Service Commission on the basis of competitive examination, to serve as the revenue collection agency and fiscal authority of the State. The State Board of Tax Administration would be abolished and its powers and duties transferred to the Department of Revenue. (H. B. 166, Mr. Neller, et al; S. B. 118, Mr. McCallum.)

North Dakota - Uniform Accounting System. Would authorize the Governor to appoint a commission of three members to study the accounting systems employed by State officials and to make recommendations relative to the establishment of uniform systems of bookkeeping and accounting for State officers and a system of reporting for political subdivisions of the State. Upon the basis of these recommendations, a committee composed of the State Examiner, Attorney General and four other members chosen by the Governor, would adopt a uniform accounting system for the State and a reporting system for political subdivisions. (S. B. 168, Mr. Raschko, et al.)

* Pennsylvania - County Tax Collection. Would establish a system of county collection of taxes in all counties except those of the first class. The powers of the taxing units as well as the duties of the collectors are defined. (H. B. 258, Messrs. Moran and Jones.)

Tennessee - County Fiscal Administration. Would require the State Director of Local Finance to establish a uniform system of fiscal administration in all counties through the adoption of uniform systems of accounting, budgeting, auditing and reporting. Further, the bill would create a county Budget Committee in each county composed of the county judge, a member of the county court elected by the county court, and a third elected by the county court but not a member of the county court. The budget committee would prepare an annual county budget on forms adopted by the Director of Local Finance. (H. B. 930, Mr. Ragon and Mr. L'Dell; S. B. 694.)

Texas - Tax Administration. Would (1) establish a centralized tax administration in the Office of State Comptroller; (2) create a State Revenue Tax Stamp Board to administer the sale of revenue tax stamps; (3) establish in the Office of State Treasurer a simplified system of accounts by abolishing certain special funds and providing for a system of classified funds; (4) establish a general tax fund and require all money in existing special funds to be placed in the general fund. (H. B. 135, Mr. Daniel.)

Revenue Sources

Maine - Income Tax. Would impose a graduated net income tax on all residents and would impose an additional two percent on all income derived from intangibles, which would be in lieu of all other taxes on intangibles. (H. B. 1473, Mr. Bubar.)

* Maryland - Income Taxes. Would amend the Constitution to authorize the imposition of graduate income taxes. (H. B. 336, Mr. Robinson.)

* Maryland - State Support. Would amend the Constitution to prohibit the levying of taxes upon real estate or tangible property

for support of the State or to pay the interest or principal of any State debt except debts outstanding on January 1, 1943. (S. R. 264, Mr. Roe.)

Nebraska - Gross Revenue Tax. Would impose a gross revenue tax of one percent on all persons, business organizations and fraternal organizations in the State or on revenue acquired in the State by non-residents. This tax would replace all school taxes on real and personal property except those levied for bonded or other indebtedness. (L. B. 485, Mr. Van Diest.)

North Dakota - Business Tax. Would raise revenues by levying a tax upon the privilege of engaging in a business, trade, or profession. The tax would be measured by gross income and would vary from one-half to two percent, depending upon the classification of the business. Banks, charitable societies and cooperatives are exempt. The State Tax Commissioner would be responsible for the administration of the Act. (H. B. 287, Mr. Beede, et al.)

South Dakota - State Levy. Proposes an annual two mill property tax levy to be paid into the general fund of the State. (H. B. 285, Mr. Christiansen.)

Washington - Financing Initiative Measures. Would require that all initiative measures include a reasonable method of raising funds by taxation to pay administrative costs of whatever is proposed, when these costs are expected to exceed \$10,000. (S. J. R. 8, Mr. Orndorff.)

Wisconsin - Local Government Expenditures. Would amend the Constitution so as to prevent the legislature from imposing any new expenditure upon local units of government without providing equivalent added revenues from sources other than real estate taxation. (A. J. R. 38, Committee on Municipalities.)

Public Lands Administration

General Management Problems

Arizona - Mineral Claims, Leases. Any citizen of the United States who discovers mineral deposits on any State lands would be given a preferred right to lease the land (not to exceed 40 acres). The lease would call for a rental payment of \$15 per year to the

State plus a five percent royalty on the mineral substances produced from the mine. The lease would be for a term of 20 years with a preferred right to renew for an additional 20 years. (H. B. 119, Mr. Klein, et al.)

Arkansas - Clarification of Land Titles. Would require the State Land Commissioner to issue, upon application, to the owner, a quit claim in case of erroneous forfeitures of land by the county clerk to the State. Would require all circuit clerks and ex officio recorders to certify to the county assessor not later than the fifteenth of each month all transfers affecting taxable interest in real estate recorded in their office, including the names of the grantors and grantees. (H. B. 295, Mr. Riales.)

Arkansas - Mineral Reservations. Would repeal a part of Section 5, Act 331, 1939, reserving to the State minerals in tax forfeited lands. (H. B. 225, Mr. Goodson.)

Iowa - Sale of County Lands to United States. S. B. 55 and H. B. 53 would authorize the Board of Supervisors of any county in which the Federal Government desired to establish a national defense project to sell to the Federal Government any county property necessary to the defense project.

S. B. 218 and H. B. 236 would give the directors of a school board district the same powers as those given the county supervisors. (S. B. 55, H. B. 43, S. B. 218, H. B. 236.)

Idaho - Sale of Public Land. Would amend the Constitution to permit school lands to be sold at a price as low as \$5 per acre, instead of the present constitutional restriction of \$10 per acre. (S. J. R. 3, Mr. Gillette.)

Massachusetts - Leasing Procedure. Would provide that no officer of the commonwealth could lease real estate until after a public hearing had been held. The highest bid at the hearing must be accepted. (S. B. 508.)

New Mexico - Deed Transfer. Would require the county treasurer to execute to the State of New Mexico a deed for each piece of property acquired or in possession of the county. After deeds are in possession of the State Tax Commission, they are subject to all provisions of the law relating to sale and resale of properties. (H. B. 194, Mr. Payne.)

North Dakota - Oil and Gas Leases. Would permit county boards to approve and adopt oil and gas leases on lands which are in a stage of delinquency. Even though color of title vests in the county during the delinquency period, the terms of the original contract would remain binding upon the lessee. (H. B. 286.)

North Dakota - School Lands. Would authorize the Board of University and School Lands to sell in any county lands belonging to the Permanent School or Institutional Funds but not a part of Federal grant lands. The manner and terms of sale, interest rates, and method of cancellation of contract are provided for. The Board would be given all powers necessary for effective disposal of the land. (H. B. 226.)

* Pennsylvania - Tax Sales. Would amend the "Delinquent Tax Sales Act of 1931, "by making optional the provision requiring the sale of such properties by county commissioners. (H. B. 485, Mr. Polen, et al.)

South Dakota - Agreements for the Use of Public Lands. Upon petition of a State agency or the governing board of a political subdivision, the Commissioner of School and Public Lands would be authorized to offer lands under his jurisdiction for park, recreational or conservation uses. Five year cooperative agreements would be made covering the points ordinarily settled by a written lease. The bill limits this alternative management policy to tracts of less than 640 acres. (S. B. 317, Mr. Light.)

South Dakota - County Land Agent. Proposes the appointment of an agent to supervise and manage all real estate owned by the county. His duties would include the securing of tenants, negotiation of leases, collection of rentals and other related activities. He would receive a salary and traveling expenses. (S. B. 232.)

South Dakota - County Land Leases. Would amend the county land leasing laws so as to require a minimum rental rate of ten cents per acre on mineral leases. (S. B. 245, Mr. Terry.)

South Dakota - County Land Sales. In addition to methods of sale authorized by the 1939 County Land Management Act (Ch. 25), this bill would provide for the designation of a "county real estate salesman." Any real estate agent maintaining a regular office could apply for the designation before March 1 each year. The application would require a \$5 fee. The designated salesman would receive a list of "Class One Land" and would be compensated by a five percent commission on actual sales. (S. B. 143, Mr. Buchler.)

South Dakota - Federal Projects. Would authorize Boards of County Commissioners to donate to the United States lands for dam sites, reservoirs and power plants; and easements and rights of way across county owned lands for canals, roads, etc., necessary to any irrigation project or power plant. (S. B. 12, Mr. Nevin.)

South Dakota - Land Exchanges. Would authorize the Board of School and Public Lands to exchange, with the approval of the Federal Government, any scattered and isolated school lands within the proximity of any national forest in the State, except lands in the

Custer State Park, for any land belonging to the United States within any national forest in the State. (H. B. 18, Mr. Mayo.)

South Dakota - Land Exchanges. Would amend the land exchange law (Ch. 23, Laws of 1939) by deleting the clause which limits exchanges with the Federal Government to lands lying within Indian Reservations. (S. B. 277, Mr. Thomas.)

South Dakota - Mineral Reservation. Would require the reservation to the county of all mineral rights when county lands are disposed of by deed. This bill applies to lands now owned by the county or to future acquisitions through foreclosure of permanent school fund mortgages. (S. B. 246, Mr. Terry.)

South Dakota - Public Land Leases. Proposes a Constitutional amendment that would legalize ten year leases on school and public lands. The present limit is five years. (S. J. R. 9, Mr. Light.)

South Dakota - Public Land Sales. Proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the sale of public grazing lands at a minimum price of \$5 per acre. The present minimum of \$10 per acre would still apply on "tillable lands capable of producing agricultural crops." (S. J. R. 8, Mr. Light.)

South Dakota - Rural Credit Leases. Would permit the leasing of rural credit lands for gas, oil and other mineral operations, with a minimum rate of ten cents per acre for subsurface areas only. (H. B. 314, Mr. Fanebust.)

South Dakota - School District Leases. Would permit district boards to lease school grounds for oil and gas exploration and development over ten year periods. (S. B. 7, Mr. Terry.)

South Dakota - State Land Leases. Would provide compensation to lessees of State lands for fall plowing done during the third and final year of their leases. (H. B. 192, Mr. Amsden.)

Texas - Mineral Conveyance. Would limit the duration of any conveyance of mineral interests, separate from the surface in any land, to a period of ten years. At the end of that period the mineral interests would revert to the owner of the surface if minerals are not produced in commercial quantities. (H. B. 178, Mr. Manning, et al.)

Utah - State Land Preservation. Would make it unlawful for any person to remove minerals, cut timber, or extract minerals from State lands. Would also forbid the grazing of livestock, or the construction of any reservoir, ditch, highway, electric light, telephone or telegraph line on State lands. (S. B. 91, Mr. Watson.)

Washington - County Property Disposition. Senate Bill 139 would authorize the Board of County Commissioners of any county to sell, lease, convey, or donate to the State or to the United States any real property owned by the county. House Bill 168 would permit the County Commissioners to sell, lease, or donate any real or personal property of the county to the United States to be used for national defense purposes. (S.B. 139, Mr. Moe; H.B. 168, Mr. Miller.)

Washington - State Land Sales. Would permit the State to sell, subject to the consent of Congress, any land granted by the United States to the State. (H. J. R. 12, Mr. Woodall.)

Washington - Tax Reverted Property. Would permit the Board of County Commissioners to rent on a month-to-month basis any property acquired by the county for delinquent taxes. (H. B. 375, Mr. Watkins.)

Park and Recreation Lands

Missouri - Recreational Commission. Would create a Recreational Commission in all counties in which a first-class city is located. The Commission would consist of six members, three appointed by the mayor of the city in which the Commission would function and three by the county court. The Commission would be empowered to own, lease, or acquire real estate and personal property for the purposes of playgrounds or other recreational centers. (S.B. 9, Mr. Smith.)

* New Jersey - High Point Park. Would appropriate two percent of the motor fuel tax to the Conservation and Development Commission and the High Point Park Commission for the development of State parks. Ninety percent of such funds to go to the Conservation Department and ten percent to the High Point Park body. (S. B. 41.)

Wyoming - National Parks. Would require the approval of the State Legislature before permitting the United States to acquire private lands for national parks. (H. B. 146, Mr. Zeiher, et al.)

Wildlife Refuges

Tennessee - Acquisition of Land. Would authorize the Director of Fish and Game to acquire by gift, lease, or purchase the exclusive game and fish rights on any privately owned lands or waters in the State. These game and fish rights would include the right to manage, administer, protect, stock and propagate wildbirds, wild animals and fish in these areas. (H. B. 488, Mr. Ragon, et al; S. B. 370.)

South Dakota - Wildlife Refuges. Would require the State Game and Fish Commission to establish, as rapidly as funds permit, game

refuges in every county. (S. B. 155.)

Services to Agriculture

Agriculture Promotion and Chemurgy

Iowa - Advertising Dairy Products. Would extend for another two years, the one cent per pound tax on butterfat from June 1 to 15. Proceeds of the tax are used in promotional activities. (H. F. 243, S. F. 275.)

Massachusetts - Beach Plums. Would authorize the State College to spend up to \$500 per year on experiments with the cultivation of beach plums. (H. B. 959, Mr. Sylvia.)

Nebraska - Chemurgical Research. Would authorize chemurgical research directed toward the finding of new and industrial uses for the agricultural crops of the State. The person in charge of this research would be authorized to cooperate with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and other State Experiment stations or industrial laboratories. (L. D. 462, Mr. Adams.)

South Dakota - State Advertising. Would provide \$25,000 for the next biennium to be used in publicizing the resources and recreational opportunities of the State. (S. B. 131.)

Texas - Rice Promotion. Would conduct a publicity sales promotion and development campaign for the use of rice and its products; would impose a tax on rice milled in the State to finance the campaign; and would create a commission to cooperate with similar commissions in Louisiana and Arkansas. (H. B. 136.)

Texas - County Development Promotion. Would authorize the Commissioner's Court in all counties of the State to appropriate from the general fund not more than five cents on the \$100 assessed valuation for the purpose of advertising and promoting the growth and development of counties. (H. B. 146, Mr. Bean, et al.)

Utah - Commodity Group Commissions. Would create a Utah State Agricultural Products Commission as well as Group Commodity Commissions for separate commodities. The function of these Commissions would be to sponsor research and publicity projects to promote greater use of agricultural products. The work would be financed by taxes on certain products. (H. B. 98, Mr. Abbott, et al.)

Agriculture Research and Education

* Connecticut - School of Agriculture. Would set up a two year school of agriculture at the University of Connecticut and makes an appropriation of \$20,000 therefor. (A. B. 546, S. B. 1447.)

* Georgia - Extension Service: Would authorize tax levying authorities and county boards of education to levy taxes for extension work in agricultural and home economics. (S. B. 102.)

North Dakota - Marketing Bureau. - Would establish within the Department of Agriculture and Labor a marketing bureau to gather and disseminate statistical information on marketing problems and to engage in marketing services for agricultural products. (A. B. 277, Mr. Swanson, et al.)

Pest and Weed Control

* Connecticut - Corn Borer. "An Act concerning the control of Corn Borer and inspection." (S. B. 1239; H. B. 339.)

* Indiana - Livestock Board. Would abolish the present Livestock Sanitary Board and create a new board of five members appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture. The Board is authorized to appoint a State veterinarian who will be the administrative officer. (H. B. 529.)

Maine - Ragweed. Would authorize the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Welfare to investigate and use all lawful methods necessary in the extermination of ragweed. (H. B. 1335, Mr. Fickett.)

Nevada - Predatory Animals. Would authorize the State Board of Stock Commissioners to cooperate with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Federal Government in the control of rodents and other predatory animals injurious to livestock, agricultural crops and public health. For this purpose, \$25,000 would be made available. (A. B. 73, Mr. Brooks.)

Nevada - Insect Pests. Would authorize the State quarantine officer to investigate the prevalence of Mormon crickets, grasshoppers, alfalfa weevils and other insect pests which may be injurious to agriculture, and to cooperate with any other Government in their control and extermination. For this purpose, an appropriation of \$25,000 would be made. (A. B. 83.)

New Mexico - Noxious Weeds. To enforce the eradication of noxious weeds, the Board of Regents of the Agricultural College would be authorized to designate injurious weeds. County agents would then be in charge of extermination within the county. Landowners who failed upon notice to destroy these weeds would be forced to pay county costs for their extermination. (H. B. 145, Mr. Eyler.)

South Dakota - Weed Eradication. Naming certain plants as

noxious, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with any governmental agency for their extermination. To enforce control, the County Board of Supervisors, at its discretion, could appoint weed supervisors. A tax for weed control is to be levied each year, and a "noxious weed eradication fund" set up. Landowners would be forced to cooperate at the risk of paying county costs for weed extermination on their land. (S. B. 44, Mr. Nash.)

South Dakota - Cooperative Rodent Control. Would authorize cooperation by the State Secretary of Agriculture with the U. S. Department of the Interior in eradicating and controlling rodents injurious to agriculture, horticulture and forestry. (S. B. 151, Mr. Reed.)

Washington - Predatory Animals. Would levy a tax of one cent per head on sheep and cattle, the proceeds of which would be used in destroying predatory animals in livestock areas. (S. B. 209, Mr. Keller.)

Washington - Insect Pests. Proposes a \$200,000 appropriation for the control of incipient or emergency outbreaks of insect pests or plant diseases including the pear psylla. (H. B. 169.)

Taxation of Real Property

Assessment, Levy, and Collection

Arizona - Property Conveyance. Would require that all taxes be paid on property before a deed, mortgage or other instrument could be conveyed for record with the county recorder. The county treasurer is to mark every instrument of transfer before the recorder may acknowledge it. This provision would not apply to "sheriff's or referee's certificates of sale on execution or foreclosure of lien or mortgage, decrees and judgments, receiver's receipts, nor patents." (S. B. 82, Mr. D'Autremont.)

* Connecticut - Foreclosure. Would provide for the foreclosure of tax liens by action in rem where taxes have been unpaid for five years. Method and procedure of foreclosure are specified. (S. B. 713, Mr. Baldwin; H. B. 2081.)

* Connecticut - State Grant. Would provide for a State grant in lieu of taxes. (S. B. 653, Mr. Baldwin; H. B. 2021.)

* Connecticut - Tax Lien. Would provide for one tax lien to cover all taxes levied against the property of one owner to avoid the imposing of liens every year. (S. B. 982, Mr. Cooney; H. B. 2350.)

* Georgia - Redemption. Relates to the "right of redemption of property sold under tax executions and special assessments." (H. B. 292.)

Idaho - State Land Purchasers. Would provide for the taxation of the interests of purchasers of State lands, heretofore exempt, by reason of title remaining in the State. (S. B. 103, Mr. Foreman.)

Idaho - Assessment. Would assess equities in State land at their full value as other property is assessed. (S. B. 104, Mr. Foreman.)

Iowa - Installment Paying. Would amend the tax payment procedure by permitting county boards of supervisors to approve by majority vote a system of quarterly tax payments. (S.F. 81, Mr. Faul.)

Iowa - Tax Ferret. Would empower boards of supervisors to employ additional personnel, on a contract basis, to assist proper officials in discovery of unlisted property. (S.R. 263, Mr. Berkman.)

Maine - Tax Limitation. Would amend the Constitution so as to forbid that the aggregate annual amount of taxes on real estate should exceed 25 mills on each dollar of its fair market value. (H. B. 1391, Mr. Grus.)

Montana - Validity of Tax Deed. Would limit to one year from date of recording the time within which an action might be commenced to determine the validity of the tax deed. After that time the deed is conclusive evidence of the validity of proceedings. (H. B. 91, Mr. Haynes.)

New Hampshire - Increased Assessment. Would make it unlawful to increase the valuation of any building because of improvements made to prevent deterioration or loss of value on the property. (H. B. 293, Mr. Tuttle.)

New Mexico - Tax Sale Certificates. Would require every person who had acquired a tax sale certificate either by purchase or assignment to serve notice upon the owner of his possession of the certificate, before claiming the tax deed. The notice must be served 90 days prior to the exemption period and an affidavit of the service must be filed with the county treasurer. (S. B. 105, Mr. Jones, et al.)

North Dakota - Assessment Review. Declaring the assessment of taxable property in excess of the full and true money value to be void, this bill would establish a comprehensive procedure for appeals by the taxpayer and for administrative and judicial review of appeals. (S. B. 195.)

North Dakota - Tax Collection Contracts. Would permit the county Board of Commissioners to contract with any elector in the county for the collection of delinquent taxes on a commission of not more than 15 percent of the tax money collected. (H. B. 282, Mr. Aker, et al.)

North Dakota - Tax Levy Limitation. Would permit a school district, when authorized to do so by over 50 percent of its electors, to increase its tax levy by not more than 50 percent over the legal limitation of levy. (S. B. 190.)

Oklahoma - Taxation of Sub-Surface Rights. Proposes the separate taxation of surface and sub-surface land ownership. The county clerk would be required to compile the first assessment list from existing records and no future mineral deeds could be recorded without their being properly listed. Each owner would be exclusively responsible for the tax levy on his particular interest. Long term exploration leases are excluded from the provisions of the bill. (H. B. 7, Mr. Harbison.)

* Pennsylvania - Deed Perfection. Would authorize county treasurers to execute and perfect deeds for seated lands sold for taxes by their predecessors in office. (H. B. 392, Mr. Tarr.)

* Pennsylvania - School Tax. Would abolish taxes on real estate for school purposes except taxes necessary for funded debt purposes and for maintenance of school buildings and grounds. (H. B. 293, Mr. Moran, et al.)

South Dakota - County Assessors. Would provide an optional plan of county assessments to be administered by a single county assessor appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. When adopted by resolution of the Commissioners in any county, this plan would supersede the present system of township assessments. (H. B. 284, Mr. Bauer.)

South Dakota - Delinquency. Would permit the payment of delinquent personal property taxes in 12 monthly installments. (H. B. 82.)

South Dakota - Delinquent Tax Collection. Would establish a procedure for collection of taxes on real property delinquent for ten successive years. The bill would require the county treasurer to make a list of all property delinquent for ten years, together

with a description of the delinquent property. Within 30 days after the filing of the list the county treasurer would be required to give notice of the date of sale. On the date specified, the property would be sold to the highest bidder or bid off by the county. The treasurer would execute a certificate of sale to the purchaser, which, unless the property be redeemed in six months, would become a deed to the property. Redemption must be within a period of six months after the sale and the redemption money would include the sum paid for the property at the sale plus eight percent interest. The validity of the sale could not be called in question unless the action be brought within one year from the date of sale. The purchaser at the tax sale would be permitted to take immediate possession of the property purchased, after the expiration of the six-months' redemption period. (S. B. 302, Mr. Jacobs.)

South Dakota - Tax Sales. Would require the Board of County Commissioners to offer for sale at least once a year all county real estate acquired by tax deed. (H. B. 228.)

South Dakota - Tax Titles. Would permit the county to repossess any real property which it has acquired by tax deed and has sold to a private person in case the purchaser is three months delinquent on his payment of interest and principal. The purchaser would not only lose his claim of title to the property but would also lose his former payments. (S. B. 9, Mr. Jacobs.)

Texas - Delinquency Procedure. This bill is a broad revision of tax delinquency procedure. It would require, inter alia: (1) That all tax suits for taxes prior to December 31, 1919 are automatically dismissed; (2) that all ad valorem taxes not paid by January 31 become delinquent with a six percent interest charge except split payments, the last half of which becomes delinquent July 1; (3) that tax delinquency records be revised and annually posted; (4) provides for deed perfection; (5) the appointment of tax receiver; (5) the appointment of a State tax delinquent supervisor, and for a court of inquiry to investigate errors in assessment since 1919; (6) defines tax units, (8) requires public officials to pay their taxes; and (9) provides for the termination of the Act September, 1946, and for assumption of these duties by the State comptroller's office. (H. B. 125, Mr. Rhodes.)

Washington - Taxation of Mineral Rights. Would impose a tax on mineral rights when owned separately from the surface rights. The bill would permit the county assessor to use any recognized method for valuing reserved mineral interests, but no reserved min-

ernal interest could be assessed at a lower value than \$1 per acre. (H. B. 326, Mr. O'Gorman.)

Washington - Unlawful Tax Levies. Would permit persons having paid taxes under an unlawful levy to sue in superior court for refund. Upon determination of the court that the tax was unlawfully collected, refunds would be made to those who had made payments under the levy, and the county treasurer would be required to cancel upon the county tax rolls the unlawfully levied portion of all unpaid taxes. (S. B. 155, Mr. McGavick.)

Wisconsin - Tax Delinquency. Would create an interim committee consisting of two senators, three assemblymen, and one member to be appointed by the State Department of Taxation, Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin County Boards Association—to study the laws governing the sale of delinquent lands and the taking of tax deeds by counties. (H. J. R. 48, Mr. McBride.)

Exemptions and Indulgences

* Connecticut - Counties. Would amend the statutes exempting counties from taxation by providing that such exemption shall not apply to property which has been reserved or leased by any county for private use. (S. B. 977, Mr. Cooney; H. B. 2345.)

* Indiana - Delinquent Taxes. Would waive all penalties on property taxes delinquent for three years or more. (H. B. 400.)

* Indiana - Lien Attachments. Would postpone attachment of tax liens for 1941 until the amount of taxes actually due on the real estate is definitely fixed. (H. B. 518.)

Maine - Tax Abatement. Would prohibit any taxing entity from contracting or agreeing to remit or abate any part or all of any taxes assessed against any person or entity. (H.P. 1413, Mr. Mills.)

New Mexico - Abatement of Penalties. These bills would authorize officials to accept payment of all delinquent taxes without penalty or interest provided that the taxes for 1940 are paid and that payment is made before October 1941. The same provision could apply to redemption of certificates with the exception that the usual redemption fee and two percent "sale costs" must be paid. (S. B. 191, Mr. Dickason; H. B. 177, Mr. Garcia, et al.)

New York - Dwellings. Would authorize the local legislative bodies to exempt from taxation buildings constructed during that time and used for dwelling purposes. Exemptions would not apply to hotels, or assessments for local improvements. (A. B. 928, Mr. Williams; S. B. 743, Mr. Hampton.)

New York - Dwellings. Would exempt from taxation (other than for local improvements) dwellings for three families or less until 1944. Alterations and improvements to existing buildings used for dwellings for not more than three families are to be exempt from taxation for local purposes during construction and upon completion until January, 1944. (S. B. 369, Mr. Williamson.)

* North Carolina - Farm Crops. Would exempt from taxation farm crops produced in the preceding year or the year in which grown and which are still held by the original producer. (S. B. 106, Mr. Watson, et al.)

* Pennsylvania - Tax Abatement. These bills would abate certain tax penalties and interest on county, township, and school district taxes. Sales of real property for the non-payment of taxes are prohibited for certain periods. Certain types of tax liens are preserved and extended. (S. B. 125, Mr. Marks, et al; H. B. 331.)

* Pennsylvania - Tax Settlement. Would authorize "compromise settlement of delinquent taxes by the various political subdivisions, for sums less than the amount due and in certain cases, private sales of real property purchased by them at tax sales." (H. B. 339, Mr. O'Connor.)

South Dakota - Grain. Would exempt from taxation all grain and seed grown, produced, stored or kept in this State. (H. B. 14, Mr. Johnson.)

South Dakota - Installment Payments. These bills propose a re-enactment of 1939 legislation permitting installment payments of delinquent taxes and abatement of penalties under certain conditions. (S. B. 1, Mr. Thomas; S. B. 31, Mr. Barrett.)

South Dakota - School Property. Would tax exempt any property while held in the name of a public school corporation. (H. B. 259, Mr. Herman.)

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

* Connecticut - State Property. Would repeal the Act which provides for reimbursement of towns for the loss of taxes on property owned by the State. (H. B. 145, Mr. Carpenter.)

* Connecticut - State Property. Would reimburse towns for loss of taxes on property owned by the State. (H. B. 143, S. B. 292.)

Idaho - Migratory Labor Camps. Would authorize trustees of school districts to negotiate contracts with the Federal Government to maintain schools for the education of children residing on Feder-

al property acquired for "so-called migratory Farm Family Labor Camps, or for any other similar purpose." (S. B. 132.)

* Montana - Federal Land. Would request enactment of legislation giving counties of Montana the power to tax nationally owned land within their borders. (H. J. M. 6.)

Oregon - Payments on Federal Lands. Would memorialize Congress "to provide a more adequate method of regularly compensating the counties in which forest service lands are located by providing annual payments to county general fund in amount of one percent of the value....." (S. J. M. 2, Mr. Childs.)

South Dakota - Endowment Lands. Would amend the Constitution so as to require the Commissioner of School and Public Lands to apportion back to the school districts an amount equal to what the school tax would be on endowment lands within those districts if they were taxable. (H. J. R. 8, Mr. Motley.)

South Dakota - Payments on Endowment Lands. These bills would appropriate amounts varying from \$12,500 to \$1,200,000 for each of the next two years to be used in giving aid to school districts and counties (in the case of the largest sum) which have tax exempt endowment and school fund lands within their boundaries. (S. B. 164; H. B. 245, Mr. Bauer; H. B. 298, Mr. Anderson.)

Texas - Agreements. Would authorize county commissioner courts to enter into agreements with the Federal Government for the payment of sums in lieu of taxes on rural rehabilitation lands. (H. B. 78, Mr. Manning, et al.)

Washington - Agreements. Would authorize boards of county commissioners to enter into agreements with the Federal Government for the payment of sums in lieu of taxes on rural rehabilitation lands. (S. B. 241, Mr. Balfour, et al.)

Wyoming - Indian Lands. Would memorialize Congress to provide assistance to Hot Springs and Fremont Counties for property lost to taxation through Federal purchase of lands for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. (H. J. M. 4.)

Severance Taxes

Arkansas - Bauxite. Would increase the severance tax on bauxite in its natural state from 6 cents to \$1.03 per long ton, the revenue derived to be credited to the National Defense Highway Improvement and Construction Fund. A Bauxite Severance Tax Division would be created in the Revenue Department for the administration of this tax. (H. B. 306, Mr. Field.)

* Georgia - Timber. Would levy a severance tax upon persons firms or corporations cutting timber in the State. (H. B. 203.)

Nebraska - Oil. Would impose a severance tax of two percent upon oil taken from the soil of the State. The tax would be payable in monthly installments to the Department of Agriculture. Revenues derived, except for three percent allowance for administration, would be accredited to the temporary school fund. (L. B. 402, Mr. Raecke.)

Welfare and Community Services

Education and Cultural Opportunities

a * Maryland - Educational Survey. Would direct a commission appointed by the Governor to make a survey of the public school system of the State and to study the question of providing for the payment of the entire cost of said system by the State. (H. B. 292, Mr. Houck.)

Washington - Rural Library Districts. Would permit the establishment of rural library districts in all areas outside of incorporated cities or towns. Formation of the district would be upon petition of 100 citizens and majority approval in election. The governing body would be a board of library trustees. To finance the district, a tax not to exceed two mills might be levied. (S. B. 176, Mr. Malstrom, et al.)

Housing

Idaho - County Housing Authorities. Would create in each county of the State a county Housing Authority whose members would be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Housing Authority in each county would function only upon a resolution by the County Board requesting them to do so. The Authority would be charged with the establishment of rural projects to better housing conditions of low income farmers. (H. B. 229.)

Nevada - Urban and Rural Housing. Would create County and City Housing Authorities in every county and city in the State, but such Authorities would operate only upon a resolution adopted by the governing body of the city or county in question declaring a need for a Housing Authority. The Authorities would be concerned with rural, as well as urban, slum clearance. In the acquisition of property necessary to a housing project, the Housing Authority concerned could exercise the right of eminent domain. Rural slum clearance projects would be directed toward better housing for low income farm families. (H. B. 81, Mr. Farndale.)

* North Carolina - Rural Housing. Would amend the Housing Authority Law by giving counties power to create Housing Authorities and to extend powers of the Act to include all rural and urban areas. Would also provide for creation of regional Authorities for contiguous counties with aggregate population over 60,000. (H. B. 219, Mr. Ward, et al; S. B. 96.)

North Dakota - Defense Housing. Would authorize the Housing Authorities of the State to undertake a housing program to make available sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities in the State, but would limit the initiation of such projects to December 31, 1943. Further, the bill would authorize cooperation between State Authorities and the Federal Government. (H. B. 179.)

Utah - County and City Housing Commissions. Would authorize counties and cities (with a population of 3000 or more) to set up Housing Commissions. (S. B. 74, Mr. Ellett, et al; S. B. 75.)

Washington - Rural Housing. Would increase the power of county Housing Authorities by permitting them to borrow money and accept grants to provide housing for low income farmers. The bill also provides a procedure to be followed by low income farmers in applying for housing assistance. (S. B. 185, Mr. Hadden, et al.)

Population and Employment

* Connecticut - Farm Camps. Provides for the establishment of farm camps. (H. B. 1626, S. B. 2385.)

Public Improvements

Maine - Roadside Improvement. Would amend the roadside improvement law to permit the State Highway Commission "as it appears advisable to perform roadside improvement and maintenance" along State highways. (S. P. 427, Mr. Elliot.)

Nebraska - Bridge Construction. Would be a comprehensive enabling Act providing for State, county and city bridge commissions, authorizing bridge construction, and providing for the issuance of revenue bonds and a toll system of bridge finance. (L. B. 213, Mr. Weborg.)

New Mexico - Freeways. Would give the State Highway Commission the power to establish and maintain freeway highways. By eminent domain or other methods, they may acquire property and are to cooperate with local officials in building freeways. Freeways are given precedence over any other intersecting street or road. (H. B. 93, Mr. Heimann, et al.)

Tennessee - Waterway Terminals. Would create an Authority for the purpose of establishing a system of publicly owned terminals on the Tennessee River and its tributaries. (H. B. 1131.)

Water Utilization

Appropriation, Conservation, and Storage

Idaho - Artesian Wells. Would provide for the regulation of artesian wells and basins by empowering the Commissioners of Reclamation to formulate rules and regulations concerning the "drilling, casing, repairing, plugging, and abandonment of artesian wells, and where necessary, to vary such rules and regulations with the varying conditions in the different Artesian Basins." County Commissioners may employ artesian well supervisors to enforce regulations locally. Drilling permits are required and bond must be given. Definitions of "artesian wells" and waste are stated. (H. B. 220.)

Iowa - Lake and Stream Improvement. Would empower the Conservation Commission to improve State owned meandered lakes and streams and other waters under State jurisdiction by widening, deepening, filling, or by the construction of spillways. (H. B. 256.)

Nebraska - Water Conservation Division. Would create a Division of Water Conservation within the Department of Roads and Irrigation to be headed by the Chief of Water Conservation, appointed by the Governor. The Division would succeed to all powers and duties formerly exercised by the Bureau of Irrigation, Water Power, and Drainage. (L. B. 471, Mr. Neubauer, et al.)

Texas - Underground Waters. To promote conservation and wise utilization of the State's underground waters, a permit would be required before underground waters could be appropriated when used for "irrigation, industrial use, public parks, game preserves, recreation and pressure purposes, and for the construction and operation of water works for cities and towns." Where the plot of land is less than two acres, the irrigation provision does not apply. First appropriators have prior claims, except that a municipality may make claim for further appropriations of the water for domestic and municipal use. The Board of Water Engineers is given power to formulate rules and regulations for administering the Act. (H. B. 70, Mr. Isaaks, et al.)

Flood Control

New Hampshire - Town Appropriations. Would permit a town annually to appropriate as much as one quarter of one percent of the assessed valuation of its taxable property to "defray the expense of acquiring, constructing, controlling, operating and maintaining

flood control dams at any point in the State on any stream or tributary thereof, whose waters ultimately flow through the town. . . ." (H. B. 299, Mr. Nelson.)

New York - State Commission. Would add two years to the life of the temporary State Commission created in 1936 for the purpose of aiding in the institution of a Federal long-range program of flood control. An additional \$17,500 would be appropriated for the use of the Commission. (S. B. 584, Mr. Warner.)

Washington - Division of Flood Control. Would create a new Division of Flood Control as a part of the Department of Conservation and Development with a Supervisor of Flood Control in charge. County and city engineers would become ex officio local flood control engineers. The chief purpose of the bill is to provide a mechanism for establishing a State and local participating maintenance policy--including both financial and engineering administration. To that end, local tax levy would be expanded to include a "flood control fund" and the "taking and damaging of land . . . by any county, either inside or outside of such county, for flood control" would be considered a public purpose.. (S. B. 128, Mr. Schroeder.)

Stream Pollution

* Connecticut - Sanitation Commission Compact. Would authorize the State of Connecticut to enter into a compact with the authorities of New Jersey and New York to form an interstate or tri-state compact to regulate the pollution of coastal, estuarial, and tidal waters within the jurisdiction of the three States. (H. B. 605, S. B. 1506.)

* Connecticut - Water Rights. Would provide that water rights appurtenant to land of watershed, curtailed because of danger of pollution, shall be acquired by the municipality. (H. B. 1683, S. B. 2442.)

Idaho - Discharge of Sewage. Would make it unlawful for public or private institutions or industries to pollute the waters of the State by discharging sewage which may be detrimental to human life. The Department of Health would have authority to enforce regulations concerning sewage disposal and to abate nuisances thus caused. (H. B. 259.)

Tennessee - Stream Conservation Board. Would establish a new seven member board having for its duties: (1) The general supervision over the enforcement of stream pollution laws, (2) the study of quality for water in relation to its reasonable and necessary use, (4) the review of plans for sewage and industrial waste disposal plants, (5) the making of rules and regulations, and (6) the negoti-

ation of agreements with other States. (H. B. 868, Mr. O'Dell, et al; S. B. 593.)

Stream Structure

* Georgia - Navigability of Rivers. These bills would propose that the Georgia congressional delegation secure enactment of legislation by Congress declaring as navigable only those rivers and streams which are nevigable and that rivers and streams not navigable in fact, be so declared by statute. (S. R. 37, 136, 136A.)

Montana - Nevigability of Rivers. Would memorialize Congress to declare the following rivers to be non-navigable: the Yellowstone River, the Missouri River above Sioux City, the James River above the Falls at Richmond, the Appomattox River above Petersburg, the Rappahannock River above Tidewater, and the Roanoke or Staunton River above Tidewater. (S. J. M. 13, Mr. Nutt.)

Zoning

Legislation and Ordinances

Massachusetts - Airport Zoning. Would permit any city or town in the interests of safety and public convenience to provide for airport zoning regulations. Where in conflict, general zoning regulations would not be considered to limit the effectiveness of airport zoning. (S. B. 548.)

Michigan - Township Zoning. Would amend the 1937 township zoning law (Act No. 302) so as to make it applicable to "any organized township." At present, the law requires that eligible townships have a population of at least 1500 and that they be adjacent to a city having a population of 40,000 or more. (H. B. 187, Mr. Feenstra, et al.)

Nevada - County and City Zoning. Would authorize the legislative bodies of cities and counties to regulate and restrict, "the design, use, and improvement of land and to control the height, size and location and soundness of structures." The bill provides for the creation of planning commissions and the preparation of master plans on conservation, land use, recreation, streets and highways, transportation, transit services, public buildings, community design and housing. Districts could be created and zoning ordinances adopted in conformity with these plans. Separate sections deal at some length with questions of platting and subdivision control. (S. B. 30, Mr. Heidtman.)

South Dakota - Change of Zone Boundaries. Would prohibit a change in boundaries, unless a written request to the governing body

signed by the owners of at least 40 percent of the aggregate area of lots included in the proposed district petitioning for such change. (S. B. 3, Mr. Grigsby.)

South Dakota - Rural Zoning. Would authorize boards of county commissioners to regulate and restrict "the use or occupancy of land for trade, industry, residence, recreation, agriculture, grazing, irrigating, water conservation, forestry, or other purposes." The bill provides for the appointment of county zoning commissions, either at the discretion of the county board or upon petition of ten percent of the electors of the county. Public hearings would be required and the final adoption of any ordinance would be subject to a referendum at a regular primary or general election. Non-conforming uses could be continued except when broken off for a two year period. A list of these uses would be made up and recorded at the time the ordinance was adopted. The county assessor would then be required to list changes from year to year. (H. B. 278, Mr. Shortridge.)

Utah - County Zoning. Would authorize the Board of County Commissioners in any county of the State to appoint a county Planning Commission. This Commission would be empowered to prepare a master plan for the county as well as more specific zoning plans for certification to the Board of County Commissioners. After public hearings, the Board could regulate by resolution the size and location of buildings and the uses of land for "trade, industry, residence, recreation or other purposes." The bill provides for a board of adjustment and for the continuation of non-conforming uses. The zoning resolution could, however, contain specifications for restoring or reconstructing non-conforming uses or for their compulsory termination--either at specified periods or in accordance with a formula permitting the amortization of the investment. Whether the County Board appoints a Planning Commission or not, district commissions could be created upon petition of 50 property owners. The adoption of zoning resolutions on a district basis would be governed by the same rules as are set out for the counties. (S. B. 132, Mr. Child.)

Washington - Rural Zoning Amendments. Would amend the 1935 enabling Act to authorize the adoption of ordinances to regulate and restrict the use of land "for residence, trade, industry, agriculture, forestry, grazing, recreation and any other appropriate use of land." The old wording is "for residence, trade, industrial and other purposes."

The amendment would also give town and county councils and boards the power to enact any complementary legislation necessary to the general plan and would add new penalties for the violation of ordinances. (H. B. 298.)

Outdoor Advertising

Maine - Highway Protective Areas. Would establish a highway protective area "consisting of all the lands along the highways in a State highway system, lying between each highway and a line parallel to such highway on both sides 300 to 500 feet distant" from the center of the highway. Protective areas would be divided into districts depending upon their commercial and other uses. Power is given to control building and setback lines. Non-conforming uses may be continued, though abandonment for one year constitutes loss of special privilege. Procedure for notice and hearing are stated. The State Highway Commission would formulate the rules and enforce the Act. (H. B. 1385, Mr. Leavitt.)

Missouri - Signboards. Would prohibit the erection of any sign or billboard within 300 feet of a road or highway without a permit and payment of a \$500 license fee to the county court. County courts are authorized to prescribe height, length and materials used in any sign built within that area. Penalties for violation are provided. (H. B. 86, Mr. Hess.)

New York - Highway Protective Areas. These bills would amend the municipal and public works laws to give local authorities the right to restrict outdoor advertising devices, to give the State power to control advertising along highways, and to provide for roadside zoning.

Senate Bill 710 gives power to governing officials of any city, town or county to restrict on roads within their jurisdiction and classified as a scenic highway, any advertising device "within view of such scenic highway."

Senate Bill 711 would require permit fees and a charge of two and one-half cents per foot of advertising for any advertising device within view of the highway. Permits are issued for one year, and the Superintendent of Public Works is charged with enforcing the law. Signboard provisions are not to be considered as conflicting with general zoning laws.

Senate Bill 712, in the interests of traffic capacity, safety and scenic attractiveness, empowers a Committee on Regulations consisting of the Commissioner of Highways, the Conservation Commissioner, the Chairman of the State Planning Council, the Chairman of the State Council of Parks, and the Superintendent of State Police, all acting ex officio, to designate and establish roadside protective areas, and to make all regulations for the use of land within the areas. The bill would establish a roadside protective area of all land not "less than 500 nor more than 1000 feet distant from the center of all highways in the State highway system." Roadside areas would be divided into commercial and non-commercial districts, with

specific use, setback and bidding provisions applying to each. Non-conforming uses are permitted, abandonment for one year constituting relinquishment of special privileges. Proposed new areas must be given notice and hearing. Enforcement of the Act rests with the Superintendent of Public Works. Provisions of this bill are not to be considered as conflicting with other zoning provisions. (S. B. 710, 711, 712, Mr. Desmond.)

Subdivision Control and Real Estate Licensing

New Hampshire - Real Estate Board. Would create a "New Hampshire Real Estate Registry," a board of three members appointed by the Governor, to register annually all persons engaged in real estate transactions. Fees for registration and penalties for non-registration are provided. (S. B. 9, Mr. Howard.)

New Mexico - Real Estate Board. Would create a Real Estate Commission of three members appointed by the Governor to examine and license all parties dealing in real estate. Licenses are to be re-issued annually. Standards for revocation are enumerated. (H. B. 205, Mr. Lopez, et al.)

Utah - City and County Planning. Would authorize the legislative bodies of cities and towns to prepare master plans, such plans being deemed "final and conclusive with respect to the location and width of streets or ways, plazas and open spaces and public easements, and the location of parks, playgrounds and public rights in lands." The bill also permits the creation of planning commissions and it proposes strict supervision of new subdivisions. (H. B. 124, Mr. Brewster.)

